

Information as of 4pm Monday, March 16, 2020

We will continue to send updates as changes are made known.

Dear Parishioners,

On March 13, the Diocese of Duluth, wrote a letter to all pastors to address the coronavirus pandemic. With the rapidly spreading virus, we are obligated to protect the vulnerable and prevent the loss of life. Therefore, the Diocese has dispensed all Catholics within the boundaries of the Diocese of Duluth from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass due COVID-19 pandemic. If you feel that attending Mass would be a risk to yourself or others, you can in good conscience refrain from attending. This especially includes those who are sick, those caring for the sick, those with underlying health conditions, and those who are quarantined. **If you are sick, do not attend Mass.**

If you cannot attend Mass, you are still encouraged to watch Mass on TV, pray the rosary, or make some other form of spiritual communion.

Electronic Giving - In light of low Mass attendance which will result in decreased giving, we ask you at this time to consider electronic giving. It is vital that our Catholic parishes continue to carry out our mission, meeting the needs of our parishes and community. **Register here for online giving** <https://www.blccnorth.org/On-Line-Giving> **or call the parish office for assistance.**

Day of Prayer and Fasting- We will be holding a day of prayer and fasting on March 18 with the intention of an end to the crisis, healing for those who are sick, solace for those who grieve the loss of loved ones, and safety for our health care workers.

WE NEED updated parishioner contact INFORMATION – to achieve more efficient communication with our parishioners. Having up to date contact information is essential! Please ensure that your email and phone number are in the parish database. Email the parish office office@blccnorth.org your contact information or complete the information section below and drop in the collection, or return by mail, call the parish office at 218-822-4040.

Daily Podcast. Please take time to listen to podcasts that will be available on the website daily. Today's podcast will be available later today! (*Click on Fr. Tony's picture on the Website main page*)

Bulletins. Reminder that our bulletins are posted on the website for you to read online or download.

Finally, the Diocese of Duluth recommends all parishes suspend large gatherings to slow the spread of COVID-19. At this time the following will be cancelled or modified. **This is a constantly changing situation, so please monitor the website for updates.**

- **40 Hours- MODIFIED.** Adoration will start Friday and end Sunday at 3pm. You are encouraged to sign up for an hour and pray for an end to the crisis. <https://signup.com/go/bOGMrZi>
- **Hospitality after Masses** - Cancelled.
- **Duluth Women's Conference** - Cancelled.
- **All Lenten Suppers** at both St. Andrew's and St. Mathias- suspended through March.
- **St. Francis School Friday Fish Fries** - cancelled through March.
- **The Adoration Chapel** - closed until further notice. The faithful are welcome to pray in our churches, where Jesus is present in the tabernacle.
 - **St. Andrew's** main entrance is open Monday through Friday 8:30am–1:30pm (we will consider additional opening hours - TBD).
 - **St. Mathias'** side door is open 7:00 am – 9:00 pm daily.
 - **St. Francis** Church is open 8:00 am – 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

- **Wednesday evening Faith Formation & Grateful Grub** - Canceled through March.
- **Sunday School** – Canceled through March.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry** – Canceled until further notice.
- **Mission Quilter ministry** - Canceled until further notice.
- **Children’s Choir** – Canceled until further notice.
- **Sisters in Christ** – Postponed until further notice.

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

*Please complete and return to the parish office or drop in the collection basket
to better facilitate our getting updates out to you in a timely manner.*

**411 N 10th St.
Brainerd, MN 56401-3207**